



United States
Department of
Agriculture

4047/057

Forest
Service

Wagner Kelly
Vernal Ranger District
Ashley National Forest
353 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, UT 84078

Reply to: 2810

Date: April 21, 1993

Diane Nielson
State of Utah, Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
355 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Diane:

Enclosed is a Plan of Operations, along with supplementary information, submitted by Mr. Reed Bills of Glendale, Arizona for the Only Chance mining claim on the Vernal Ranger District of the Ashley National Forest. This claim has not been in operation for the past 20 years. A cabin, conveyer, storage tanks, and miscellaneous mining equipment are on site in a state of disrepair. Mr. Bills now plans to start up operation of the claim during this coming summer.

I have not accepted this Plan of Operations as complete and I ask for your comments by May 20, 1993. If you have any questions concerning this Plan of Operations for the Only Chance mining claim, please contact Mike Bergfeld of this office at 789-1181. Thank you for your help on this matter.

Sincerely,

Nancy J Rose

FOR MARY A. WAGNER
District Ranger

Enclosure

5/12/93
FROM MIKE B.
~ 1/2 ACRE CABIN & FACILITIES
~ 1/4 ACRE MINE QUARRY/PIT

RECEIVED

APR 22 1993

DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING



Caring for the Land and Serving People

**PLAN OF OPERATIONS
FOR MINING ACTIVITIES
ON NATIONAL FOREST LANDS**

Submitted by Reed G. Bills Part Owner 25 July 1992
Signature Title Date

Plan Received by _____
Signature Title Date

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Name of Mine/Project * Only Chance
- B. Type of Operation * Placer Copper Development
(lode, placer, mill, exploration, development, production, other)
- C. Is this a (new/continuing) operation? (CIRCLE ONE)
If continuing a previous operation, this plan (replaces/modifies) a previous plan of operation. (CIRCLE ONE)
- D. Proposed start-up date of operation 1 June 1993
- E. Proposed duration of operations 12 Years
- F. Proposed seasonal reclamation close-out date _____

II. PRINCIPALS

- A. Name, address and phone number of operator * Reed G. Bills 5973 W. Pasadena Ave.
Glendale AZ 85301 . (602) 247 4433

- B. Name, address, and phone number of authorized field representative (if other than the operator). Attach authorization to act on behalf of operator.

* _____

- C. List the owners of the claims (if other than the operator)

* See attached sheets of last known address of owners.

- D. List name and address of any other lessees, assigns, agents, etc. and briefly describe their involvement with the operation, if applicable:

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III. PROPERTY OR AREA

Name of claim and the legal land description where the operation will be conducted.

MMC #	Name	Section	Township	Range
*	Only Chance UMC 121389	16	1S	21 E SLB&M

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE OPERATION

- A. **Access.** Show on a map (USGS quadrangle map or a National Forest map, for example) the claim boundaries and describe and show on the map all access needs, on and off the claim. Specify what Forest Service existing roads will be used, where maintenance or reconstruction is proposed and where any new construction is necessary. For new construction, include construction specifications such as widths, grades, etc. Show location and size of culverts. Describe maintenance plans. Describe the type and sizes of vehicles and equipment that will be traveling the access routes.

Access will be by existing Forest Service roads from the Kane Hollow turnoff to the patented millsite at Misery Spring and then from there to the lower end of the Only Chance claim. Vehicles using the road for the first year will be a 3/4 ton 2 wheel drive pickup. During subsequent years, a larger truck will be used. This will probably be a 1-1/2 ton 2 wheel drive flat bed truck.

- B. **Attach map, sketch or drawing** showing location and layout of the area of operation. Include names and locations or any streams, creeks, and springs. Describe and explain on the map the type of operation, method or techniques you propose (examples: drilling, open pit mining, dredging, milling, etc.; include locations, capacity, size, amount, etc.). Show on the map and describe below the size and kind of all surface disturbance, such as trenches, pits, settling ponds, stream channels and run-off diversions, waste dumps, drill pads, timber disposal or clearance, etc. Include sizes, capacities, acreage, amounts, locations, materials involved, etc.

The operation will be similar to open pit mining except that there will not actually be a pit since the digging will always be at the downhill face of the ore deposit. The exact location of the "pit" is not known since the extent of the deposit is not known at this time. All digging will be confined to the width of the copper bearing material which is well within the limits of the claim. There will be no timber clearance or disposal for the first several years since there are no trees on the area to be mined. There will be no waste dumps, as such, since all of the processed tailings will be put back in place after the copper mineral is removed.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

- C. **Project Description.** Describe all aspects of the operation: how clearing will be accomplished, topsoil stockpiled, waste rock placed, tailing disposed of, etc. Calculate production rates and total volumes of waste rock and ore. Include justification and calculations for settling pond capacities and sizing of runoff diversion channels.

1. For first 12 months:

* No clearing will be required since there is no vegetation on the surface of the area to be mined except a few weeds perhaps. Ore will be excavated with a front end loader at a rate of about 25 tons per day. Ore will be mechanically and hydraulically sized. Ore that is + 3/4" will be hand picked. Ore that is - 30 mesh will not be treated at all. Ore that is between these fractions will be hydraulically classified and screened. The tailings of this size will be replaced in the mined out area along with the tailings from the + 3/4" material and all of the - 30 mesh fraction. The - 3/4" + 30 mesh concentrate will be leached in a rubber lined steel leach tank. The leach residue will be washed and brought to a PH of +5 and replaced in the mined out area. The leach solution will be regenerated and stripped of copper by electrowinning, the barren solution returned to the leach tank. The thickener tank will retain the - 30 mesh material washed from the - 3/4" + 30 mesh fraction during classification. All water from the thickener tank will be recycled. The - 30 mesh fraction from the tank will be excavated and replaced in the mined out area. This will be about 1 ton per day.

2. For total life of project:

* The operation will be the same as for the first 12 months except that the production will be 50 tons per day.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

- D. **Describe the Equipment and Vehicles** you propose to use in your operation (Examples: drill, dozer, wash plant, mill, etc.). Include: sizes, capacity, frequency of use, etc.

* A 1 cu yd front end loader, an ore surge bin and 2" grizzly, a belt conveyor, a 2'x6' vibrating screen, a 3' x 8' Akins type spiral classifier, a 6 pocket hydraulic classifier, a 36" Sweco multi-deck vibrating screen, a 10' dia x 5' deep rubber lined leach tank, 36 PVC electrowinning cells, a 25KW generator, 4 water storage tanks 8' dia x 12' high, 24 volt transformers and SCR rectifiers.

- E. **Structures.** Describe and include justification for the structures or facilities planned for the operation. Include such things as storage sheds, mill buildings, thickener tanks, fuel storage, powder magazines, pipe lines, water diversions, trailers, sanitation facilities, etc. Include justification and calculations for sizing of tanks, pipelines and water diversions. The fuel storage facilities should include containment structures that will hold the volume of the largest storage tank in case of a tank failure or leak. Show the locations on the sketch map.

* 16'x24' existing log cabin, a 10' dia x 5' deep thickener tank, a 500 gallon fuel tank, 1 1/2" polyethylene pipe line from the spring to the water storage tanks and from the water tanks to the classifiers and thickener tank and back to the water storage tanks. A chemical toilet. Any excess water from the spring will be allowed to flow in the existing stream bed and any excess water diverted to the storage tanks will be returned to the stream bed. Water from the spring currently sinks into the sand of the stream bed about 1/2 mile downstream from the spring.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES (SEE 36 CFR 228.8)

- A. **Air Quality.** Describe measures to be taken to minimize impacts on air quality such as obtaining a burning permit for slash disposal or dust abatement on roads.

* There will be no slash burning since there will be no slash. There is no plan or need for road dust abatement since there will be an average of three round trips per week on the access roads which do not produce dust due to the sandy nature of the roadbed.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

B. **Water Quality.** State how applicable state and federal water quality standards will be met. Describe what measures or management practices will be used to minimize water quality impacts and meet applicable standards.

1. If water is to be used in the operation (processing ore, washing ore, solution make-up, etc.) state how the water will be stored, treated and disposed of. If ponds of any type are proposed, such as for storage or settling, state how they will be designed and built. Provide storage capacities and water balance calculations. State how ponds will be maintained on an annual basis.
2. Describe methods to control runoff and erosion to prevent entry into surface water for all disturbed areas, including waste and tailings dumps.
3. Describe proposed surface water and groundwater quality monitoring, if required, to demonstrate compliance with federal or state water quality standards.
4. Describe what measures will be used to minimize potential water quality impacts during winter closure, if applicable.
5. If land application is proposed for wastewater disposal, the location and operation of the land application system should be described.

* 1. All water used in the operation will be retained in the water storage tanks, the thickener tank or the rubber lined leach tank. 2. No runoff control is needed because of the sandy nature of the ore deposit. 3. No ground water monitoring is planned since there is no groundwater at the site. 4. Leach tank and electrowinning cells will be drained down to prevent runoff. This has worked for the last 20 years.

C. **Solid Wastes.** State how any tailing, dumpage, or other waste produced by operations will be disposed of or treated so as to minimize adverse impacts. Include a statement that all unburnable garbage and refuse will be hauled off-Forest to a sanitary landfill.

* All tailings will be returned to the mined out area, All non burnable garbage and refuse will be hauled Off Forest to the Uintah County landfill.

D. **Scenic Values.** State how scenic values will be protected. Examples are screening, slash disposal, timely reclamation, etc.

* At the end of the project, the current land contours will be approximately restored and all structures and equipment will be removed from Forest Service land.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

- E. **Fish and Wildlife.** All practicable measures to maintain and protect fisheries and wildlife habitat affected by the operations must be taken, and should be defined. Most of those measures involve avoidance of critical habitat such as along streams and bogs when planning roads, dumps, etc. Opportunities during reclamation to prevent erosion or plant browse or forage species should be described.

* No fish or wildlife habitat will be permanently affected since there are no fish and no tree cutting involved.

- F. **Cultural Resources.** Describe procedures for protection of historic and archeological values. The Forest Service is responsible for insuring that the area to be covered by the operating plan is inventoried prior to plan approval to determine the presence of significant cultural resources and will specify protective and/or mitigation measures to be taken by the operator. If previously undiscovered cultural resources (historic or prehistoric objects, artifacts, or sites) are exposed as a result of operations, the operator shall not proceed until he is notified by the District Ranger that he has complied with provisions for mitigating unforeseen impacts as required by 36 CFR 228.4(e) and 36 CFR 800.

* There are no known values at this time. If the inventory by the Forest Service shows any, we will cooperate fully to preserve them.

- G. List all hazardous substances (by name and quantity required) which you intend to use or generate during the proposed operation. Operations USING or GENERATING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES must attach copies of other Federal and State agency permits, including all stipulations and conditions pertaining to the permit.

* Sulfuric acid for the leaching operation will be consumed at a rate of about 25 lbs per day during the first year and 50 lbs per day from then on.

- H. With regard to hazardous substances, discuss handling, storage, security (fencing), identification (signing), or other special operations requirements necessary to conduct the proposed operation.

* All concentrated sulfuric acid will be stored in returnable ICC approved drums and they will be stored in the cabin under lock whenever the operators are absent. The dilute acid in the leach tank and the electrowinning cells will have signs showing their content. The handling of the dilute solution will be in PVC or polyethylene pipe and pumps.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

- I. **Close-out Reclamation.** This section should describe the removal of structures and facilities, and the reclamation of the access road. It should specify that roads no longer needed: (1) be closed, (2) bridges and culverts be removed, (3) cross drains, dips, or water bars be constructed, and (4) the road surface be shaped to as near a natural contour as practicable and be stabilized. Show the expected date for completion of all reclamation.

* Covered in D above

VI. FOREST SERVICE EVALUATION OF PLAN OF OPERATIONS

- A. Recommended Changes/Modifications for Plan of Operations: *

- B. **Bond** - As a further guarantee of faithful performance with the reclamation requirements agreed upon in the plan of operations, the operator delivers herewith and agrees to maintain a surety bond, cash, bond, irrevocable letters of credit in the sum of * (\$*).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- A. It is understood that should the nature of the operation change a modified or supplemental plan of operations may be required.
- B. It is understood that approval of this plan of operations does not constitute: (1) Certification of ownership to any person named herein; and (2) Recognition of the validity of any mining claim named herein.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form.)

- C. It is understood that a bond equivalent to the actual cost of performing the agreed upon mitigation and reclamation measures may be required before this plan can be approved.
- D. It is understood that approval of this plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with any other applicable State or Federal laws, rules or regulations.
- E. It is understood that any information provided with this plan that is marked confidential will be treated by the agency in accordance with that agency's laws, rules and regulations.

I/We have reviewed and agree to comply with all conditions in this plan of operations, including the recommended changes and reclamation requirements. I/We understand that the bond will not be released until the Forest Officer in charge gives written approval of the reclamation work.

Paul Y. Bills

Operator (or Authorized Official)

25 July 1992

(Date)

OPERATING PLAN APPROVAL:

(Name)

(Title)

(Authorized Officer)

(Date)

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, D.C. 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB #0596-0022), Washington, D.C. 20503.

VERNAL RANGER STATION
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NOV 30 '92

ROUTE	INFO	ACT
WAGNER	✓	✓
DSS		
ERNS		
AULIN		
ERGFIELD	✓	MB
WILLIAMS		
WILSON		
HONCRIEF		
WILKINS		
AN GENDEREN		
BACHTLI		
WOOD		
ESSEL		
VERSON		

U. S. Forest Service
Vernal Ranger District
Ashley National Forest
353 North Vernal Ave.
Vernal, UT 84078

27 November 1992

Re: 2810

Attn.: Mary A. Wagner

I have received your letter of Oct 20, 1992 and request that you add the following items to the plan of operation that I previously submitted.

Page 3, Item C.1 The normal work force will be 2 people, the operating season will be from about 1 June until snowfall, the work week will normally be 5 days, 10 hours per day. All chemical supplies will be stored in the cabin and locked except when the crew is on the site. Power generator will be locked when the crew is absent. It is my understanding that I will not be allowed to block the access road at Misery Spring even though this would provide the maximum security. At the end of each season, all trash and unusable material will be removed from the Forest and all usable material will be removed or stored in the cabin for the following season. Equipment will be left in place for the next season.

Page 4, Item E. The cabin is needed for sheltering people and for secure storage of supplies during the operating season and for storage during the off season.

Page 5, Item B. Whenever the rate of copper extraction indicates that the ore is properly leached, and





